



31n School-Based Mental Health Services

2018-2019 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The overall intent of 31n is to increase capacity for mental health and support services in schools for general education pupils throughout Michigan. In 2018, the Michigan Legislature allotted over \$30 million dollars to initiate this effort.

History

Multiple stakeholders came together to create a model of care for the delivery of school health and mental health services that is high quality, responsive to local needs, and financially sustainable. This work came out of the growing evidence that Michigan schools are greatly under-resourced with both behavioral health and other health support services. There is agreement among educators and behavioral health experts that licensed mental health providers are pivotal in delivering behavioral health services that impact school safety, educational outcomes, and the long-term health of individual students. As school safety concerns grew and deepened over time, the conversation quickly focused on funding and the ability to employ additional behavioral health professionals in schools to ensure access for all students to mental health care services.



Funding

\$5 million for Child and Adolescent Health Center services

Allocated to the existing network of Child and Adolescent Health Centers (CAHCs) for placement of a licensed master's level behavioral health provider in schools that do not currently have services available to general education students. (31n(5))

\$500,000 for administration

Distributed equally to the 56 ISDs for the administration of programs created under 31n and to ensure the overall vision and intent of the legislation is carried out. (31n(10))

\$16.5 million for Intermediate School District services

Allocated equally to the 56 Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) to expand the availability of mental health services and support services to general education students. Local districts must agree to a 20% match, seeking appropriate Medicaid reimbursement (once available), and related criteria to grow and sustain the efforts. (31n(6))

\$8 million for assessment and training

Allocated equally to all 56 ISDs to create or strengthen school-based behavioral health assessment teams and provide related training to increase and improve local capacity. (31n(12))

Timeline & Deliverables

This timeline represents the key activities and accomplishments that have occurred since the December 2018 passage of the school-aid budget supplemental legislation, appropriating the 31n funding:

December 2018

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) submitted a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requesting an expansion to the existing school-based services program to include general education students. This general education expansion is called "Caring 4 Students (C4S)".

February 2019

31n Advisory Group solicitation letters were distributed to agencies and organizations representing school health, mental health, school counseling, education, health care, and others throughout the state.

April 2019

The first 31n Advisory Group meeting was held in Lansing on April 16th. The group is co-chaired by the two departments, with the Michigan Council for Maternal Child Health serving as facilitator. Advisory Group members were asked to give input and recommendations to draft 31n guidance documents.

June 2019

Interdepartmental review teams were established to review 31n plans. Each review team included a master's prepared mental health professional. Review teams used an established rubric and gave ISD specific feedback.

August 2019

MDHHS received final SPA approval from CMS to allow for expansion of the existing school-based services program. Medicaid began convening a Caring 4 Students (C4S) communications and implementation group which includes representatives from ISDs.

January 2019

Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and MDHHS formed an interdepartmental workgroup tasked with meeting deliverables and goals of 31n funding. This workgroup has met every two weeks since January.

March 2019

An application through the Grants Electronic Monitoring System/ Michigan Administrative Review System (GEMS/ MARS) was sent to all Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) securing commitment to participate in 31n funding. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) awarded all 56 ISDs their 31n funds by April 1ST.

MDE and MDHHS developed draft guidance documents for ISDs to utilize when creating their official 31n plans.

May 2019

31n Guidance was sent through GEMS/MARS along with opening the application portal on May 8th. All ISD plans were submitted by May 28TH.

MDE transferred 31n funding for Child & Adolescent Health Center (CAHC) expansion to MDHHS. An application process was established to start new mental health models within the existing network of CAHCs. This new model of care is called Expanding, Enhancing Emotional Health (E3). Fifty (50) new E3 models have been executed initiated in schools throughout Michigan providing assessment, brief intervention, individual therapy ,and evidence-based treatment groups to students.

July 2019

ISDs received specific feedback on their 31n plans. Individual phone calls were set up with over 40 ISDs to go over their plans and proposed changes.

October 2019

C4S launched on October 1st, giving ISDs the ability to bill Medicaid for health and mental health services for general education Medicaid students.

Child & Adolescent Health Center Impact

The E3 (Expanding, Enhancing Emotional Health) sites were placed in counties that were home to more than 2/3 of youth suicides (ages 10-24 years) that occurred from 2008-2017.

The average youth suicide rate in counties with E3 sites is 10.3 per 100,000 person-years, 13% higher than the state average of 9.1 per 100,000 person-years.



294

students with 572 visits received mental health services in the first few weeks of the school year.

8 of the 10

Michigan counties with the highest number of youth suicides (ages 10-24 years) have schools with E3 school sites.

50

new mental health sites in Michigan schools were identified and funded in 47 school districts by June 2019, potentially impacting over 32,000 youth each year.

100%

of the 50 new E3 sites are in high socio-economic need schools, with free and reduced lunch rates of 50% or greater.

85%

of E3 sites have mental health providers in place and are providing services to students.

2

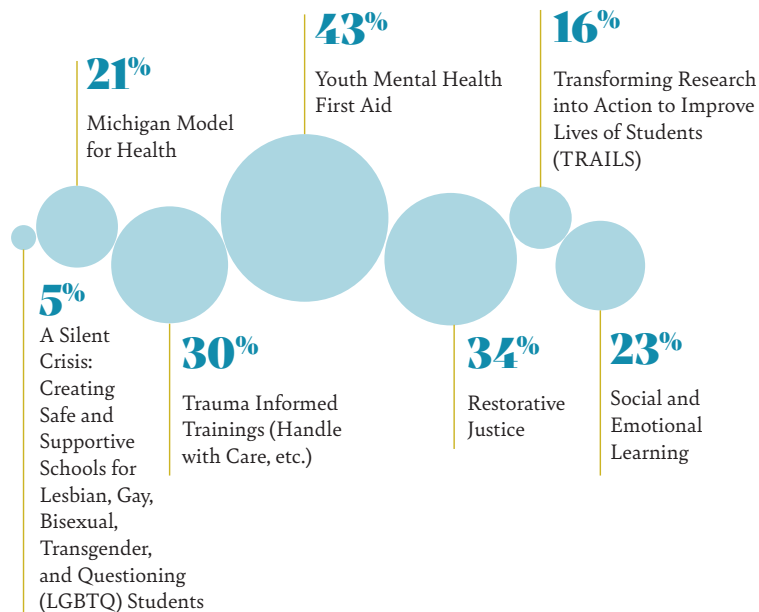
skills-based Motivational Interviewing trainings held for E3 mental health providers.



Intermediate School District (ISD) Impact

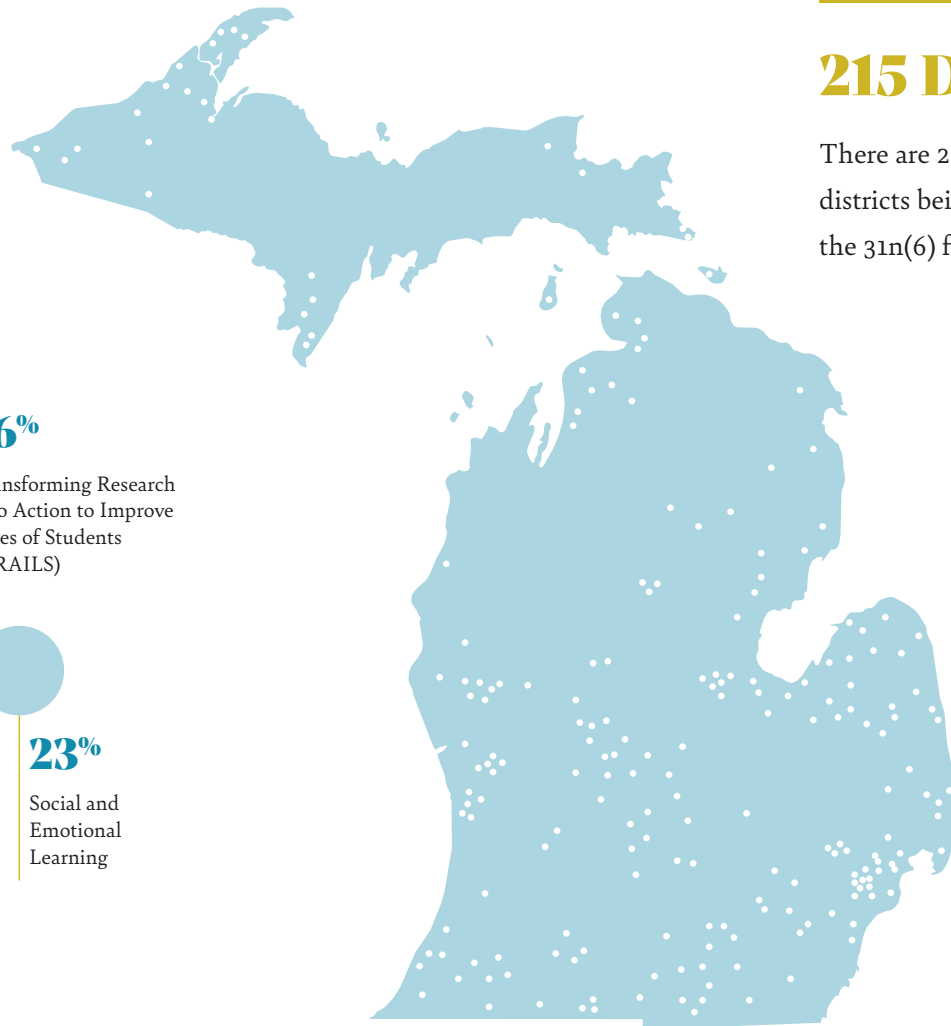
Evidence-based Trainings

ISDs selected the following evidence-based trainings for their subsection 12 work, please note they could choose more than one training:

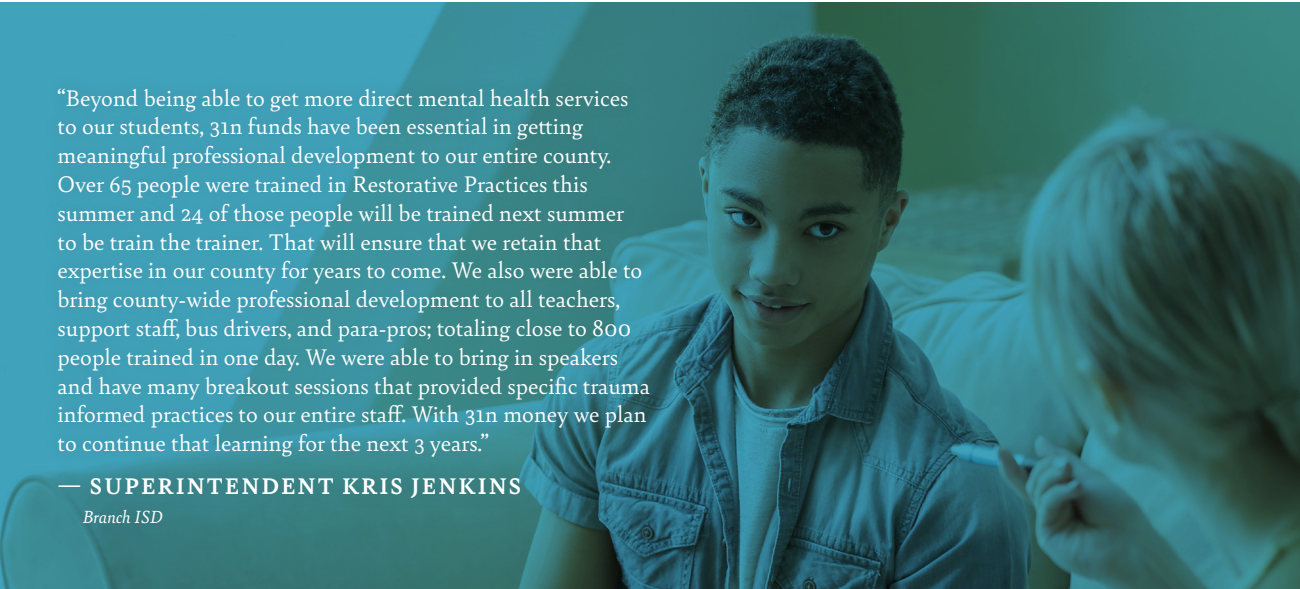


215 Districts

There are 215 local school districts being served through the 31n(6) funding.



What ISDs are Saying



“Beyond being able to get more direct mental health services to our students, 31n funds have been essential in getting meaningful professional development to our entire county. Over 65 people were trained in Restorative Practices this summer and 24 of those people will be trained next summer to be train the trainer. That will ensure that we retain that expertise in our county for years to come. We also were able to bring county-wide professional development to all teachers, support staff, bus drivers, and para-pros; totaling close to 800 people trained in one day. We were able to bring in speakers and have many breakout sessions that provided specific trauma informed practices to our entire staff. With 31n money we plan to continue that learning for the next 3 years.”


— **SUPERINTENDENT KRIS JENKINS**
Branch ISD

“The support our county received from 31n has allowed us to bring all the districts in our county together and have a collective approach to creating safe and supportive schools”

— **MR. ETHAN ALEXANDER**
*Culture & Climate Consultant, Instructional Services-
Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency*

“The 31n funds have been a blessing as we have seen more and more challenging behaviors in students. We are using the 31n funds to contract for additional mental health providers and provide training to staff to support the needs of our students.”

— **SUPERINTENDENT DAVID J. COX**
Wexford-Missaukee ISD & Manistee ISD



“After looking at critical data related to Monroe County and after having numerous conversations with local area schools, community partners, and state entities, the Monroe County Intermediate School District (MCISD) used the 31n grant to hire two full time mental consultants and contract with several other local health agencies. This team is lead by a mental health coordinator hired by the district utilizing additional funds. The team will be housed at MCISD and will work with schools in crisis situations and assist in creating proactive approaches that address mental health. The team will create protocols for schools to utilize when confronted with a mental health issue and offer extensive professional development and training in the area of mental health. The creation of this team is directly in line with county wide health goals and initiatives, as well as state initiatives that address the whole child.”

— **DR. STEPHEN J. MCNEW, SUPERINTENDENT**
Monroe County Intermediate School District

“Our ISD is thrilled to be able to hire a mental health provider to assist our local schools with student behavioral needs. The 31n grant addresses the number one issue identified within our classrooms by all of our districts. We have high hopes that having 31n funds for needed services within the classrooms will make a significant difference for teachers and students.”

— **SUPERINTENDENT WENDY L. WARMUTH**
Dickinson-Iron ISD

Advisory Council:

State School Aid boilerplate required the departments of Education and Health and Human Services to establish an advisory council to provide recommendations on 31n funding. Letters were sent in February 2019 to solicit members for the council, with the first meeting convening in April 2019.

Associations represented on the advisory council are as follows:

Michigan Association
of Superintendents &
Administrators

Michigan Association
of School Boards

Michigan School Business
Officials

Michigan Association
of Intermediate School
Administrators

Michigan Elementary and
Middle School Principals
Association

Michigan Association of
Secondary School Principals

Michigan Association of
Health Plans

School- Community Health
Alliance of Michigan

Michigan Council for Maternal
& Child Health

Michigan Association of
Community Mental Health

Michigan Association of
School Nurses

Michigan Association of
School Social Work

School Psychology Graduate
Program

Michigan School Counselor
Association

Michigan Health Endowment
Fund

Michigan Parent Teacher
Association

Communities In Schools
of Michigan

Michigan State Police

Oakridge Public Schools

Oakland Schools

Ottawa Area ISD

Michigan Department of
Health & Human Services

Michigan Department
of Education

Subcommittees:

After the advisory council was formed, two subcommittees were created to help inform the larger council on mental health practice and implementation issues and financing. Along with state partners, representatives from ISDs and local districts were added to the committees to provide a needed local perspective.



This report was created by staff at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan Department of Education, and the School-Community Health Alliance of Michigan and supported by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund.

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